



EQUITABLE RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

November 5, 2021

Program Summary

The purpose of the Equitable Recovery Program is to assist community-based organizations providing services or programming aimed at increasing equity and eliminating disparities in health, early childhood development, education, economic support, housing, and environmental justice in Qualified Census Tracts or communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Program intends to award up to \$50 million in grants through this Announcement. Funding for this assistance is provided to Wisconsin by the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The program is administered by the Department of Administration (DOA). Additional details are available on the [Program website](#).

Prior to contacting DOA please consult the Grant Announcement, Grant Application and this Question and Answer document available on the [Program Website](#).

U.S. Department of the Treasury American Rescue Plan Act guidance can be found [here](#).

FOR ALL QUESTIONS RELATED TO ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

DOA will execute grant agreements with successful applicants only after DOA determines that expenses and lost revenues included in an application are reasonably consistent with guidance from the US Department of Treasury for use of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act requirements, and Program provisions. DOA's execution of grant agreements, however, is not dispositive as to whether any particular cost meets the criteria. Applicants retain responsibility for demonstrating eligibility of expenses and are required to hold DOA harmless for any audit disallowance related to the eligibility of costs, including repayment of ineligible amounts.

FOR ALL QUESTIONS RELATED TO APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

DOA will not respond to inquiries regarding an applicant's specific eligibility. Each applicant is required to determine its eligibility based on program requirements provided in the Grant Announcement. However, DOA will accept and answer questions seeking clarification of eligibility requirements. DOA will determine applicant eligibility only as a routine matter during the application review process after the application deadline has passed. Applicants should carefully review "Section 4. Eligibility Requirements" of the Grant Announcement prior to applying.

1. Hello, I have a Real Estate firm in Oak Creek, WI. Does my firm qualify for this grant?

Response: Please see page 1 of this document for a statement on determination of applicant eligibility and where to find information about eligible applicants in the Grant Announcement.

2. Is the Equitable Recovery Grant open to Tribal governments?

Response: Per the Eligibility Requirements in the Grant Announcement, Tribal governments are not eligible under the Program.

3. How can I apply for this program?

Response: Please refer to the grant website for details on how to apply for the Equitable Recovery Grant Program, [Equitable Recovery Application Instructions.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#).

4. If a grant is awarded, does this program operate on a reimbursement model, are funds disbursed in a lump sum up front, or are disbursements made at regular intervals throughout the grant period (i.e., annually)?

Response: Funds will be disbursed to awardees upon successful execution of grant agreements at the beginning of a grant award. The grant agreement will dictate how the award will be disbursed to the awardee and may vary by awarded project.

5. Will there be reimbursement periods/deadlines within the 3/3/21 to 12/31/2024? If so, what are those dates?

Response: Awards will not be made as reimbursements.

6. Since college foundations are 501(c)(3) organizations, can we apply for the funds and, if awarded, provide funds to the college to implement activities that align to the intention of this grant? In reading the definitions of "community-based organizations" and "sponsor" it appears these organizations qualify. But in reviewing the ineligible applicants of "institutions of higher education" I don't know if that throws us out. If there is any way to respond to this question sooner than later - that would be helpful as preparing the application for a Nov 5 deadline will require lead time.

Response: While a 501(c)(3) organization is eligible to apply for funds, section 9.10 of the grant announcement indicates that the type of subawards you describe would not be allowed.

7. I am the President of a community not for profit Veterinarian clinic in WI. We have several needs that could benefit from your grant and better serve our community needs. Can this grant be used to purchase equipment or leasehold improvements? Or is it strictly for cash flow or added staff?

Response: This program is not intended for capital improvements, and capital purchases are ineligible under this program. The purpose of the program is to award funding to organizations that are providing direct services or programming to individuals.

8. I am a female running an independent Therapeutic massage business. Do I qualify for this particular grant or is there more specificity involved?

Response: Please review the eligible applicants defined in section 4.1 of the grant announcement. Note that 4.1 indicates that for-profit organizations and individuals are not eligible.

9. Our organization is a 501c3 that serves as a fiscal sponsor for 50 different organizations in Wisconsin. I wanted to clarify if two different organizations under our sponsorship could both apply for this program, and also just clarify if fiscally sponsored organizations could apply at all. It seems as if they can from your materials, but I'm not sure if you are using the term sponsored organization in that way or not.

Response: Fiscal sponsors/agents that are eligible under the criteria in 4.1 of the grant announcement may apply on behalf of a sponsored organization(s). A fiscal sponsor may only submit one application, regardless of how many applicants they are applying on behalf of.

10. I'm looking for clarification of the eligible census tract areas. Our community health clinic is physically located 3 blocks from the three eligible Marathon County tracts, however the majority (over 50%) of our patients live in these tracts. Would our clinic be eligible to apply or ineligible?

Response: An eligible applicant does not need to be located in a qualified census tract in order to apply for funding. Applicants should address how service areas in the application narrative serve communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., QCTs).

11. We are an indie publishing house focused on is on folklore, dark genres, Asian American and Hmong stories (fiction and nonfiction) with traditional and non-traditional lead characters including women and ethnic leads. Our goal is to have a platform for greater diversification in literature. Our project is to employ new underrepresented writers including Hmong, Asian Americans, and women. Would our small business qualify for this grant?

Response: Please review the eligibility requirements in section 4 of the grant announcement. Note that for-profit businesses are not eligible to apply, but non-profit organizations meeting certain criteria are eligible.

12. I am trying to do an application every time I get to the 2nd page it goes back to the main screen and says I'm times out but I'm typing as fast as I can, how can I find out if it went through so I don't have 20 of them in the system?!

Response: Please carefully read the application instructions located here: [Equitable Recovery Application Instructions.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#). Page 4 deals with how to save an application so that you may continue to access it.

13. Is this Equitable Recovery Grant open for applicants who have received the Beyond the Classroom Grant?

Response: Please see section 3.6 of the Grant Announcement regarding the Method of Award,

which reads: Priority will be given to programs that are not funded through other State of Wisconsin American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund initiatives (e.g., Beyond the Classroom). Funds may not be requested for expenses reimbursed from any other American Rescue Plan Act program. If you have received a Beyond the Classroom grant you will need to ensure that there is no duplication of any expenses in an Equitable Recovery application.

14. I recently applied for this grant and made a significant error. I submitted before it came to my attention. How can I rectify this?

Response: Per Section 2.7 of the Grant Announcement, you may email the program (equitablerecovery@wisconsin.gov) to indicate that you wish to withdraw and resubmit your grant application to correct any errors.

15. I misread the area for Ineligible Use of Funds which I may have included funding for Capital Purchases. I have already submitted the application, is it possible to make an amendment to the application?

Response: Please see the response to question #14.

16. Would personnel expenses for contractors be eligible expenses for this project? Our organization has just one FTE but many contractors who provide vital services on a part time basis.

Response: Yes, contractual service costs are an eligible expense as referenced in section 7 of the grant announcement.

17. In the application, question 2.1.2 states “Organizational Experience Describe the organization’s experience implementing culturally competent services and programs to families living or working in qualified census tracts or high poverty historically underinvested neighborhoods. Please identify the specific geographical areas in which the program will operate.”

As an organization, we work with families and community centers in low-income census tracts in the City of Milwaukee. We are able to speak to these census tracts and have clarified that they qualify as part of the grant. The question that we have is about “identify the specific geographical areas in which the program will operate.” While we work with families that live, work and play in low-income census tracts, part of our goal is to increase access to the organization’s offerings. Do we still qualify given our programming does not occur in the low-income census tracts?

Response: An eligible applicant does not need to be located in a qualified census tract in order to apply for funding. Applicants should address how service areas in the application narrative serve communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., QCTs).

18. We are a nonprofit considering applying for the Equitable recovery grant for one program and the healthcare infrastructure grant for a different program. The recipient organization would be the same, but it would fund separate and appropriate efforts under each.

Our question is this: would receipt of funds from the equitable recovery program preclude us from being awarded a grant through the healthcare infrastructure program? We are hesitant to apply for one if it would preclude us from the other.

Response: Please see section 7.2 of the grant announcement. Awards from one program would not specifically disqualify an award from another program, but funds may not be requested for expenses already reimbursed by any other program. The projects and expenses sought by both programs would need to be separate.

19. Our organization was wondering if an already existing service program we operate could be eligible for the Equitable Recovery Program; specifically on the eliminating disparities in health? We currently have birthing and birth outcome-related programs in our organization that we think could fit well into the grant's intention, but were unclear if something that already exists could be eligible?

Response: Yes, it could be eligible if the other requirements are met. The applicant would need to address how the funding requested would be used to enhance an existing program or service.

20. I'm not available to attend the webinar at the scheduled time. Will the webinar be recorded and available for viewing at a later time?

Response: The webinar slides and presentation are available on the program website [DOA Equitable Recovery Program \(wi.gov\)](#)

21. I'm looking at the budget form on the application and see the first column required to be completed is an "Anticipated Expense Date." Would this simply be December 31, 2024, for all items since the budget would cover a multi-year period? This would seem to make sense especially for things like salaries and contractors.

Response: Anticipated Budget Dates should represent the time period for which the applicant intends to use funds, simply using the end date of the grant does not supply the program with sufficient detail.

22. I am currently working on the grant application for (my organization). The building was just recently purchased and was an operating elementary school before purchase. In the center we will have a food pantry, a workout room, a thrift shop, a community room for workshops, etc., an internet cafe for teaching basic computer skills and also for children who need access to internet for school work, free tutoring, services specifically for persons undergoing cancer treatment, and a kitchen in which to make free meals for needy community members. Our plans are quite ambitious as we want to reach out and help as many people as possible.

Is this grant intended specifically for personnel and advertising or can it also be used for capital purchases such as flooring for the workout center, refrigeration for the pantry, a storage unit for items specifically to help those who are homeless or displaced, an updated furnace for the center, etc.?

Response: Please see section 7 of grant announcement regarding eligible expenses. Note that while capital purchases (as defined in the announcement) are ineligible, funding can be used for supplies and other program expenses.

23. "The purpose of this grant program is to assist community-based organizations... in qualified census tracts or communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic." Eligible Wisconsin Qualified Census Tracts are clearly defined in the grant announcement, but we were less certain on what constitutes a "community disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic." Could you please provide some clarification on this term?

Response: Treasury has used Qualified Census Tracts as a mechanism to identify communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic but has acknowledged that there are other ways to identify disproportionately impacted communities. For example, other measures may include homelessness, rent burdened or historically low-income communities. There may also be other scenarios, e.g., a tourism-dependent community, where COVID-19 had economic impacts disproportionate to the rest of the state or country. Applicants using measures other than Qualified Census Tracts should provide justification using quantitative metrics for the relevant neighborhood or community.

24. May grant funding be used to cover client expenses such as rent, car repairs and similar costs?

Response: Program funding could be used for those types of costs if in support of the project (e.g., office rent, repair of organization's vehicle, etc.), but no direct payments to individuals would be permitted.

25. We are a non-profit legal clinic that provides completely free legal and support services to survivors of human trafficking (both labor and sex) and sexual violence. I just learned about the Equitable Recovery Program grant opportunity and wanted to clarify if this funding can be used to support undocumented clients. About 50% of our clients are foreign nationals that were victimized by employers through the visa program and many of them are undocumented.

Response: There is nothing in the grant program's provisions or Treasury guidance that would make offering services to this population ineligible.

26. How do we determine if our programming is located in "qualified census tracts or communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic"?

Response: Qualified census tract data can be found here [State Table | HUD USER](#). With respect to the latter the applicant will need to supply their own information to substantiate that a community is disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. See response to question 23 above.

27. Can the Budget section of the grant application can be marked as "Confidential" and included in the DOA-3027 form to protect from public disclosure?

Response: As with the rest of the application documents, the budget section should not be marked as confidential unless it qualifies as a trade secret under Wisconsin law, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 134.90(1)(c).

28. Hello! The grant proposal for my organization is statewide, and includes 10 locations each with a different demographic makeup. Can we include a demographic table that identifies statewide data without counting these towards the character limit?

Response: The character limit cannot be adjusted based on the size of the applicant's service area.

29. Can the funds support an existing program that works to achieve equality, or are they targeted to new programs?

Response: Funds can support either type of eligible program (existing or new).

30. Does the priority concept to non BTC [Beyond the Classroom] awardees include the BTC technical assistance award?

Response: Yes.

31. May funds be used to renovate a space already owned by the clinic for programming related to our proposal?

Response: This program is not intended for capital improvements, and capital purchases are ineligible under this program. In the healthcare space, there is another grant program that is designed to fund capital projects. See the [DOA Healthcare Infrastructure Capital Grant Program \(wi.gov\)](#)

32. Does this grant allow for indirect costs in the submitted budget? Does the RFP saying NA indicate that the organization can use a standard 10% rate?

Response: Applicants may include indirect costs and there is not a prescribed allowable %, however, keep in mind this is a competitive application process.

33. I see that 20% of the application scoring is about Wisconsin residents in qualified census tracts. We serve county residents and that doesn't fit the census tract definition but we only serve low income adults. Do we qualify for this grant and will we qualify for those points?

Response: Question 5 of the Narrative and Evaluation Criteria reads: *Describe the number of Wisconsin residents in qualified census tracts or communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic served by your organization currently and the estimated number that will be served during the grant period.* If your residents are not in a QCT but are members of a different population disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, you should include that information. See the response to question 23 above.

34. What is a DFI and how do you register?

Response: Please see page 5 of the application instructions [Equitable Recovery Application Instructions.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#)

35. How hard is the January 2020 eligibility requirement? If our organization is relatively new as a 501C3 but was incorporated officially as a 501C3 in March of 2020 instead of January would this disqualify us from being awarded?

Response: Applicants must have been in operation on or before January 1, 2020 OR be sponsored by a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization with 501(c)3 status that provides services or funding to the applicant in support of the applicant's mission. Please see section 4 of the grant announcement for additional clarification.

36. Can the funds support an existing program that works to achieve equity and fairness in the housing market, or does it have to be a new program?

Response: Eligible applicants can apply for funding for either existing programs that expand or enhance services, or new programs.

37. Is there another grant program that is for other entities other than non-profits? Where do we get information about that?

Response: No. The following is a link to other grant programs which you may review for eligibility. There is not a similar program for

38. If an organization of higher ed is contracted for services thru these funds - but is not the applicant - is that permissible?

Response: Yes, expenses for contracted services is a potentially allowable expense.

39. Are organizations that don't have 501c3 status yet allowed to use a fiscal sponsor?

Response: Eligible 501(c)(3) organizations that act as a fiscal sponsor may apply on behalf of a sponsored organization/project.

40. If I am applying to both categories do I have to do 2 separate narratives?

Response: No, you may provide information in a single narrative if you choose.

41. If we are applying to fund a program through which we convene several partners to support the program. Per the eligible expenses of this program, would paying the partners for their role this qualify as an eligible expense? They would be paid through the us as the convener.

Response: To the extent that you are paying an organization for contracted services as part of the project, the expenses would be eligible. Other types of subawards would be ineligible under section 9.1 of the grant announcement.

42. I know you said that sub-awards are not possible. If I am applying for a project that is part of a collaborative effort involving multiple organizations, could we as the grantee contract with the other organizations to provide services as part of the project?

Response: Yes, contracted service costs are eligible.

43. Can you go over the prohibition on transfer of funds / sub-awards again (examples?) and explain the difference with sponsored applicants?

Response: Section 9.10 of the announcement indicates that subawards, transfer of funds to another organization (except as payment of eligible services or goods) or the use of funds for grantmaking is not permissible. The applicant may not distribute in bulk a portion of their award to another entity. However, an eligible 501(c)(3) that acts as a fiscal sponsor/agent may apply on behalf of a sponsored organization and the sponsored organization may receive funds for providing the services to execute the project. Such an arrangement will not violate the prohibition on subawards/transfer of funds in 9.10.

44. Can funds be used to stipend learning or education sessions and/or milestones met along a training's completion?

Response: No. Direct payments to individuals are not allowable under the program.

45. When you hit "save and close" the email with the link to continue working on it only goes to the AOR - is that correct? Or, can one of the "other" contacts receive it as well?

Response: Yes, that is correct.

46. Can you speak at all to services and/or programming that will increase equity? Would you have examples?

Response: Programs that increase equity will show improved outcomes for their recipients as a result of the applicant's programs or services.

47. Under DocuSign if I am submitting the grant but I am not the person who does all of the administration of grant funds do I put my name and contact info or hers?

Response: The applicant's authorized signer should supply his/her contact information.

48. Where do you find maps of qualified census tracts?

Response: Please see question 26.

49. I'm unclear on allowable and unallowable expenses. Are construction costs considered capital? Construction management fees? Is the focus more on program requests or infrastructure. For example, housing. The organization I work for builds, rehabs, but also does outreach to home owners, connects them to grant and technical support to stay in their homes and secure funds for roof repairs, etc. Just trying to understand the proper focus.

Response: Yes, construction costs are considered a capital expense for the applicant and would be ineligible. Other aspects of what you describe could be eligible as programmatic expenses.

50. I'm a consultant who works with many nonprofit clients. Can I start several applications under my name/email OR should I have each client start their own applications under their email addresses?

Response: Each applicant should create their own applications with the Authorized Representative's contact information.

51. For the narrative question character limits, is it 1750 with spaces, or without space?

Response: With spaces.

52. Does the outlined project have to be specifically related to COVID relief efforts?

Response: Applications should demonstrate the impact of COVID 19 on the population that is being served (either because they live in QCTs or are otherwise disproportionately impacted by the pandemic), however the projects themselves do not need to be specifically related to COVID 19 relief efforts.

53. If we are not located in a qualified census tract, what other data should we focus on providing that would identify our location as a community disproportionately impacted by the pandemic?

Response: Qualified census tracts are one method for determining communities where a significant proportion of residents are low-income. Wherever possible applicants should use data to demonstrate that the populations and geographies they serve have experienced disproportionate public health or economic impacts because of the pandemic. In some cases, COVID-19 may have exacerbated disparities that already existed. See also the response to question 23 above.

54. I understand that an account with DocuSign is not required to submit? Can a staff person complete the application and insert the organization's CEO name in Section 4?

Response: Please see page 3 of the application instructions which can be found here: [Equitable Recovery Application Instructions.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#). The Authorized Representative section should be completed for the person that is authorized to sign on behalf of the organization.

55. Are letters of support beneficial?

Response: Letters of support are not required and will not influence scoring.

56. Is the DOA looking for a certain number of people impacted by these grants? In terms of estimated number of Wisconsin residents.

Response: There are no specific numbers required, however projects should demonstrate how their proposal will provide new services or programs for individuals or expand the reach of existing programs.

57. If you are submitting a request in 2 categories, are you limited to the same word count?

Response: Yes.

58. Do the programs have to take place in the qualifying census tracts or can the programming occur elsewhere if we're serving individuals that live in those census tracts?

Response: No, the programs themselves don't need to be located in QCTs, but competitive applications will articulate how programming will most directly serve individuals living or working in QCTs communities that otherwise experienced disproportionate impacts from the pandemic.

59. You mentioned "qualified census tracks" - where are these qualified tracks described?

Response: Please see question 26.

60. Capital purchases are ineligible but I thought I heard that funds can be used to remodel? Is this accurate? Can we build or remodel for LMI individuals?

Response: If the applicant's core mission is to assist with building/remodeling LMI housing then the funds could be used for that purpose, so long as the payment doesn't go directly to the LMI individual as a stipend. Capital purchases that benefit the applicant organization (i.e., to remodel its own office space) are ineligible.

61. Is there any character limit within the budget? Can we include more explanation or narrative within the budget on items such as "Patient financial assistance"?

Response: Yes, there are character limits on the application, please review the convenience copy of the application located here [CONVENIENCE COPY - Equitable Recovery Grant - Application.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#)

62. Is rent an allowable expense?

Response: Rent of the applicant organization is an allowable expense.

63. Our organization serves one county only. Are you looking for organizations that serve a larger geographic area?

Response: No, there is no specific geographic requirement.

64. The grant requirements state the "transfer of funds to another organization (except as payment of eligible services or goods) or use of funds for grantmaking is not permissible." How does the grant define "eligible services or goods"? Would paying for staff positions at another organization and the professional development of these staff be appropriate? Is there another grant program that is for other entities other than non-profits? Where do we get information about that? Thank you.

Response: Yes, staff positions at another eligible organization are eligible to the extent they are providing contracted services on the project. No there is not a program like this for entities that

are not non-profit, here is a link to other programs that may be a better fit for your organization:
[DOA \(wi.gov\)](http://DOA.wi.gov)

65. Are funds available only for direct service programs and activities? Are things like research and public education eligible for funds?

Response: The purpose of the program is to award funding to organizations that are providing direct services or programming to individuals.

66. Can you clarify the indirect comment around the full application of a federally approved rate? Is that permitted?

Response: There is no limit on indirect expenses for this grant program, however applications will be competitively scored.

67. Does the mission of a fiscal agent have to focus specifically on the work this grant proposal covers? In our case, the fiscal agent is a community nonprofit generally focused on one neighborhood, but it would be the agent for a broad early childhood initiative that includes additional neighborhoods, plus a partner city in Wisconsin that is focused on the same program. We are not a nonprofit, so we're going to work with a partner that is a nonprofit to apply for this grant.

Response: A fiscal agent that meets the eligibility requirements may apply on behalf of a sponsored organization. The grant application can draw on the sponsored organization's mission and experience to demonstrate qualification in a particular area.

68. Is a single organization able to submit multiple applications? As in one application for category A and a separate one for category B?

Response: Applicants should submit only one application, but they can apply for funding in both categories.

69. Is there a relationship between the organization's annual budget size and the amount of the request? For example, can a \$200K annual budget organization apply for \$1 million based on projected program growth?

Response: No, there is no specific information required about the applicant's current annual budget.

70. Do contracted (or subawarded) organizations have to be listed in the application? Do they also have to be 501c3 organizations?

Response: Recipients are encouraged to describe in their application any anticipated contractual relationships (e.g., for services) that will allow them to carry out the work of the project. Subawards are not permitted.

71. Where we can we access a comprehensive list of eligible expenses?

Response: Section 7 of the grant announcement references a non-exhaustive list of eligible expenses, if the applicant has specific question about a potential expense, please email the program at EquitableRecovery@wisconsin.gov.

72. Would job training services fit into the "education" category?

Response: Yes, that is a potentially eligible activity.

73. Is there a match requirement? If so, what is the requirement?

Response: No, matching funds are not required.

74. Can funds be used to provide training to community stakeholders and/or individuals to provide services, even if those individuals are not employees of the applicant?

Response: Yes, that is a potentially eligible activity.

75. We are a smaller organization that would be interesting in applying for a smaller amount (150k or so). Is the grant geared towards smaller organizations as well as large (those applying for closer to 1M)?

Response: Yes, grant requests of up to \$1 million dollars are allowed.

76. Where is the Convenience Copy located?

Response: It is located within the Application Instructions [CONVENIENCE COPY - Equitable Recovery Grant - Application.pdf \(wi.gov\)](#)

77. Could an eligible organization providing small business loans (such as a CDFI) use these funds for collateral support or loan loss reserve or would that fall under section 9.10?

Response: Section 9.10 prohibits grantmaking under this announcement. The Evers Administration has announced the Diverse Business Investment Grants that targets community development financial institutions. Details on that program are forthcoming.

78. Would it be more prudent to apply for funding for a specific program rather than general operating expenses?

Response: That is up to the applicant.

79. Can leverage of other funding strengthen the application?

Response: Match funding is not required.

80. Is it that 2 applications cannot total more than \$1 million, or that 2 applications cannot be awarded more than \$1 million?

Response: Applicants are only allowed to submit 1 application, that cannot exceed \$1 million in funding requests. Applicants may apply for funds under both categories in a single application.

81. Will partial funding be given if the full request is not accepted?

Response: Section 3.5 of the grant announcement allows the program to negotiate, limit or amend awards in accordance with the objectives of the program and available funding.

82. Can one organization apply for more than one program within one category as long as the total is less than \$1 million? For example, two applications for housing-related programs?

Response: Yes, the applicant would submit both programs in a single application.

83. Regarding narrative question #5, does your agency have expectations or standards for evaluating the size of the population to be served compared to the amount of funds requested?

Response: No.

84. Does a sponsor organization need to be an eligible applicant since they are only attesting, or could the sponsor be a unit of government or higher education institution?

Response: Sponsors must also be eligible applicants as described in section 4 of the grant announcement.

85. Would like further clarification on the ability to use funds for construction/remodeling. If we can make a case that the construction would allow additional services - would it be allowed?

Response: Capital expenses such as remodeling are not eligible expenses under this program, see section 7.2.

86. How do you define a sponsoring organization and/or distinguish it from a fiscal receiver?

Response: For purposes of establishing eligibility for a 501(c)(3) organization that has not been in existence since before 1/1/2020, an eligible sponsor is defined in section 1.3 of the grant announcement.

Fiscal sponsors/agents that are eligible under the criteria in 4.1 of the grant announcement may apply on behalf of a sponsored organization. The sponsored organization may then be paid for the services they provide carrying out the project without violating the prohibition on subawards/transfer of funds in 9.10.

87. As I understand it equipment purchase (ie: anything over \$5,000) is NOT an eligible expense for this grant, correct?

Response: An equipment purchase that meets the definition of capital expense would not be eligible.

88. Do the two categories of funding for this grant have separate pools of funding and if separate, what is the amount in each?

Response: Per Section 3.5 of the Grant Announcement, applications will be evaluated in two separate award categories: Category A, \$25 million for health, early childhood, education; and Category B, \$25 million for economic support, housing, environmental justice. Applicants may apply for funding in both categories if an applicant provides services in both categories, however a maximum per-applicant award of \$1,000,000 still applies.